

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A gateway system for triggering the monitoring of data packets that form a communication in a data packet network, comprising:

a storage device for storing computer instructions for generating and transmitting data packets having a communication monitoring header ~~select~~ header, which includes communication monitoring parameters;

a network port for receiving and transmitting the data packets; and

a processor coupled to communicate with the storage device and coupled to the output port wherein the processor generates the data packets with the ~~select~~ communication monitoring header and then transmits the data packets ~~them~~ through the network port.
2. (currently amended) The gateway system of claim 1 wherein the communication monitoring header ~~select~~ header includes address information of a remote node containing monitoring equipment.
3. (currently amended) The gateway system of claim 1 wherein the communication monitoring header ~~select~~ header includes an indication of the type of monitoring that is to take place.
4. (original) The gateway system of claim 3 wherein the type is signaling information only.
5. (original) The gateway system of claim 3 wherein the type is payload information only.
6. (currently amended) The gateway system of claim 1 wherein the communication monitoring header ~~select~~ header includes a header stripping parameter that defines, at least partially, when the communication monitoring header is to be stripped from the data packet.

7. (currently amended) The gateway system of claim 1 wherein the communication monitoring header ~~select~~ header is appended to the original data packet to cause the original data packet to be transmitted to a specified external node containing monitoring equipment.

8. (currently amended) The gateway system of claim 1 wherein the communication monitoring header ~~select~~ header is appended to a duplicate of the original data packet to cause the duplicate data packet to be transmitted to a specified external node containing monitoring equipment.

9. (currently amended) A method in a gateway device to a data packet network for triggering communication monitoring for a plurality of data packets that form a communication, the method comprising:

determining whether a data packet is part of a communication that is to be monitored;

appending a communication monitoring system (CMS) header to the data packet wherein the data packet further includes an IP header with a destination address; and
routing the data packet with the appended (CMS) header to a node containing monitoring equipment.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the determining step includes determining whether a source of the data packet is one that is to be monitored.

11. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the determining step includes determining whether a destination of the data packet is one that is to be monitored.

12. (original) The method of claim 9 further including the step of determining whether payload information is to be monitored in addition to monitoring signaling information.

13. (original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of duplicating the data packet and adding the CMS header to only one of the original or duplicate data packets.

14. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the CMS header includes an address of a node containing monitoring equipment.

15. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the CMS header includes an indication of the type of monitoring that is to occur.

16. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the CMS header includes a header stripping parameter.

17. (original) A method for routing data packets in a data packet network, comprising:

determining that an original data packet is part of a communication that is to be monitored;

duplicating the original data packet and forwarding one of the original and the duplicated data packets to a node containing monitoring equipment; and
forwarding the other of the original and the duplicated data packets to a specified destination.

18. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the method is performed in a gateway device.

19. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the method is performed in a portal to the data packet network.

20. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the one of the original and duplicated data packets that is forwarded to the node containing monitoring equipment is modified to including monitoring parameters within a header.